## Warrick County Disaster Emergency Declaration 2012- 02

## A DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION REGARDING EXTREME DROUGHT CONDITIONS

WHEREAS, the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) division of the United States Department of Commerce has identified southwestern Indiana as an area experiencing extreme drought conditions which are expected to persist or intensify; and

WHEREAS, the local National Weather Service out of Paducah, Kentucky, a part of NOAA, issued a Special Weather Statement on June 30, 2012 at 03:43 CDT indicating an elevated fire danger and elevated risk for wildfires to persist for the next several days in Warrick County and the surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, the entire geographic area within Warrick County is at an elevated fire danger and elevated risk for wildfires due to an extreme drought brought on by circumstances including, but not limited to the following: lack of precipitation, low afternoon relative humidity, very dry vegetation and extreme temperatures; and

WHEREAS, the health and safety of the persons and property located in Warrick County is at risk and in need of a Disaster Emergency Declaration.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED** by the Board of Commissioners of Warrick County, Indiana, as follows:

- 1. Pursuant to § 35.31 of the Code of Ordinances of Warrick County and Indiana Code § 10-14-3-29 a local disaster emergency is declared.
  - a. The entire geographic area within Warrick County is subject to this Disaster Emergency Declaration.
  - b. This Disaster Emergency Declaration shall remain in full force and effect for a period of seven (7) days calendar from this date, unless extended by the Board of Commissioners at a public hearing.
- 2. This Disaster Emergency Declaration prohibits:
  - a. The open burning on any property in Warrick County,
  - b. The private use or discharge in Warrick County of any fireworks defined by IC §22-11-14, and
  - c. The use or discharge into the air or ground at any location within Warrick County, any device or mechanism which has an open flame attached or included as part of the device.

- 3. This Disaster Emergency Declaration does not prohibit:
  - a. The responsible use of gas or charcoal grills,
  - b. The public display of County or Municipal Fireworks with the approval of the local fire chief with jurisdiction over the area in which the public display will take place.
- 4. This Disaster Emergency Declaration may be enforced by any and all Law Enforcement Officers of the State of Indiana. Any person who knowingly, intentionally or recklessly violates this Declaration under Indiana Code § 10-14-3-7(a) may be fined and/or imprisoned pursuant to applicable law.

THIS DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION IS HEREBY PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WARRICK COUNTY, STATE OF INDIANA THIS 2nd DAY OF JULY, 2012.

> **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF** WARRICK COUNTY, INDIANA

Don Williams, Vice President

Marlin Weisheit, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Warrick County, Indiana